

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a bypass on the 'National Highway' No.7 near Mahu-Siwani in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Pak Occupied Kashmir

1388. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pak occupied Kashmir includes Gilgit which has been ceded by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stand of the Government on Gilgit issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c) Pakistan is in illegal occupation of a part of the State of Jammu & Kashmir including, *inter-alia*, Gilgit. The Indian territory in Pakistan occupied Kashmir, ceded illegally by Pakistan to China under the so-called Sino-Pak 'boundary agreement' of 1963, includes a portion of Hunza territory of the erstwhile Gilgit Agency of the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

The entire State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. Government are committed to the resolution of all issues between India and Pakistan peacefully through bilateral dialogue under the Simla Agreement.

[Translation]

Literacy Rate of SC/ST

1389. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total percentage of literacy at the time of independence in the country and the percentage of literacy of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes therein separately;

(b) the total percentage of national literacy till 1996 and the percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes therein separately; and

(c) the schemes to be implemented for increasing literacy percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The total percentage of literacy in the country at the time of independence is not available with the Census.

(b) The total percentage of national literacy till 1996 is not available. However, as per the latest Census conducted in 1991 the literacy rate in India is 52.21% and that of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are 37.41% and 29.60% respectively.

(c) No separate scheme is being implemented for increasing literacy percentage exclusively of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Total Literacy Campaigns which is the principal strategy of the National Literacy Mission aims at eradication of illiteracy of the entire targetted non-literate population of the country irrespective of caste or creed of the learners, is proposed to be continued during the Ninth Five Year Plan. As per the reports received, out of the total clientele group under the literacy campaigns being implemented throughout the country, 22% of the beneficiaries belong to Scheduled Castes and 12% belong to Scheduled Tribes.

[English]

Evaluation of Answer Sheets at Law Centre of Delhi

1390. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report appearing in 'Pioneer' dated January 15, 1997 regarding evaluation of answer sheets by teachers in front of the students at the Law Centre of Delhi University in utter violation of the norms; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A factual report on the allegations made in the news-item has been called for from the University and any further action in the matter would be possible after the same is received.

Preservation of Ranipur-Jharial

1391. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to preserve Ranipur-Jharial area of Bolangir due to its historical significance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) The Centrally protected monuments in the Ranipur-Jharial area of Bolangir are maintained in a good state of preservation and conservation by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) Does not arise.